measuring 4.497 acres be leased out to Uttar Pradesh Government through its Directorate of Sports for a period of 30 years for construction of a mini stadium. However, the proposal was not approved by the Competent Authority as the said land is required for defence purposes.

Development of Indigenous System of Medicines

3543. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate directorate of Ayurveda;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have set up a separate Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy. Under the Department, a Directorate for Ayurveda and Siddha with a Director as its administrative head is to be established. The filling up of various posts in the Directorate is in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Specialised Hospitals

3544. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any specialised hospitals in different States;

(b) whether each State really require a hospital like All India Institute of Medical Sciences; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for setting up of such hospitals in the capitals of various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) 'Health' being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to establish hospitals in the States keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

National Ayurvedic Institutes

3545. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of National Ayurvedic Institutes functioning at present in the country;

(b) whether the working condition of the National Ayurvedic Institute, Jaipur is satisfactory; and

(c) if not, the measure being taken by the Government to improve the condition of this institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) There is only one National Institute for Ayurveda at Jaipur, Rajasthan.

(b) The National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan. The University of Rajasthan has been granting provisional affiliation to the Institute on a year to year basis. The Inspector of the University has pointed out certain shortcomings in the Institute. The Inspection teams of the Central Council of Indian Medicines (CCIM) which lays down the minimum standard of education, visited the Institute to assess whether the facilities provided are as per the norms. The Inspection report of the CCIM has made certain observations regarding nonfulfilment of the norms in some respects. The major short-comings are as follows :-

(i) Non-filling up of vacant posts;

(ii) Non-availability of certain equipments;

(iii) Additional requirements of hostel facilities; and

(iv) Establishment of a Herbal Garden.

(c) A herbal garden has been established. Hostel facilities have now been provided. Steps have been initiated to procure equipments and fill up vacant posts.

Ahir Regiment

3546. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ahir Regiment ever existed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for its abolition; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Government to revive it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Multipurpose Project for Koshi

3547. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any multipurpose project for the Mithilanchal region from the Koshi river;